

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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Applicant's or agent's file reference PC-21006547	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/SE 2003/001634	International filing date (day/month/year) 22.10.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 23.10.2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G06F 17/30		

Applicant

Softhouse Nordic AB et al

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:
 - a. (*sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau*) a total of 4 sheets, as follows:
 - sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
 - sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
 - b. (*sent to the International Bureau only*) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 19.05.2004	Date of completion of this report 21.01.2005
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/SE Patent- och registreringsverket Box 5055 S-102 42 STOCKHOLM Facsimile No. +46 8 667 72 88	Authorized officer Kristoffer Ogebjer/EK Telephone No. +46 8 782 25 00

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/SE 2003/001634

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This report is based on a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

the international application as originally filed/furnished

the description:

pages 1 - 22 as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the claims:

pages _____ as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

pages* 23 - 26 received by this Authority on 19.05.2004

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the drawings:

pages 1 - 7 as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/SE 2003/001634

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1 - 30</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>1 - 30</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1 - 30</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Documents cited in the International Search Report:

D1: US2002073077
 D2: WO0137591 A1
 D3: WO0144887 A2
 D4: JP6203124 A

The cited documents represent the general state of the art. The invention defined in claims 1-30 is not disclosed by any of these documents.

The cited prior art does not give any indication that would lead a person skilled in the art to the claimed method and server of sending analysis results of a face. Therefore, the claimed invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Accordingly, the invention defined in claims 1-30 is novel and is considered to involve an inventive step. The invention is industrially applicable.

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CLAIMS

1. A method for estimating the resemblance of various objects, comprising the steps of recording (40; 50) data of a real object, which is a face, using a communication device (1), transferring (41; 52, 60) said recorded data to a service server (100; 405),
10 extracting (42; 64) a comparison object from said recorded data, making (45; 65) a resemblance analysis between the comparison object and a previously stored object, and transferring (44; 67) result data containing information about the resemblance analysis to a result unit (1; 100; 405).
2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step of transferring (41; 52, 60) said recorded data to a service server (100; 405) at least partly occurs wirelessly.
- 20 3. A method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the step of transferring (41; 52, 60) said recorded data to a service server (100; 405) comprises the steps of packaging (51) said recorded data as a message, transferring the message to a service server, and unpackaging (63a) the message in the service server.
- 25 4. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, further comprising the steps of transferring (41) the identity of the communication device (1) to the service server (100; 405) and storing (61) the identity in the service server.
- 30 5. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the result unit consists of the communication device (1).
- 35 6. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein said result data contains an address link.

7. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein said recorded data is a digital image.

5 8. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the service server (100; 405) comprises a number of stored objects and the resemblance analysis comprises the step of

identifying the stored object which the comparison object resembles most.

10 9. A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said result data contains the identified object which the comparison object resembles most and a measure of the degree of resemblance.

15 10. A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein said result data further contains additional information about the stored object which the comparison object resembles most.

11. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, further comprising the step of storing the comparison object in the service server (100; 405).

20 12. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the communication device is a mobile phone.

13. A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the message is an MMS (Multimedia Message Service) message.

25 14. A method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, further comprising the steps of sending, in response to transferred data, a form to the communication device (1), recording form data using the communication device

30 (1),

transferring said recorded form data to the service server, the step of making (45; 65) the resemblance analysis comprising the step of using said form data in the resemblance analysis.

35 15. A method for estimating the resemblance of various objects, comprising the steps of

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receiving (60) recorded data of a real object, which is a face,

extracting (42; 64) a comparison object from said data,

5 making (45; 65) a resemblance analysis between the comparison object and a previously stored object, and

transmitting (44; 67) result data containing information about the resemblance analysis.

16. A method as claimed in claim 15, wherein said 10 received data is an MMS message.

17. A method as claimed in claim 15 or 16, further comprising the steps of

sending a form in response to received data, and

15 receiving form data, the step of making (45; 65) the resemblance analysis comprising the step of using said form data in the resemblance analysis.

18. A method as claimed in any one of claims 15-17, further comprising the step of identifying the stored object which the comparison object resembles most,

20 said result data containing the identified object which the comparison object resembles most and a measure of the degree of resemblance.

19. A method as claimed in any one of claims 15-18, further comprising the step of storing the comparison 25 object in the service server (100; 405).

20. A server (100; 405) for estimating the resemblance of various objects, comprising a receiver (101; 201; 301) which is adapted to receive recorded data of a real object, which is a face, an object database (104; 304) which is adapted to store an object, a service 30 handler (102; 202; 302) which adapted to extract a comparison object, an object recogniser (103; 203; 303) which is adapted to make a resemblance analysis between the comparison object and the stored object, and a transmitter (106; 206; 306) which is adapted to transmit result data containing information about the resemblance analysis.

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21. A server (100; 405) as claimed in claim 20, further comprising a factual database (105, 205, 305) which is adapted to store information about the stored object.
22. A server (100; 405) as claimed in claim 20 or 5 21, further comprising a WAP server.
23. A server (100; 405) as claimed in any one of claims 20-22, further comprising an SMS transmitter.
24. A server (100; 405) as claimed in any one of claims 20-21, further comprising an i-mode server.
- 10 25. A server (100; 405) as claimed in any one of claims 20-24, wherein the receiver (101; 201; 301) is an MMS receiver.
- 15 26. A server (100; 405) as claimed in any one of claims 20-25, further adapted to identify the stored object which the comparison object resembles most, said result data containing the identified object which the comparison object resembles most and a measure of the degree of resemblance.
- 20 27. A server (100; 405) as claimed in any one of claims 20-26, further adapted to store the comparison object.
- 25 28. A server (100; 405) as claimed in any one of claims 20-27, further adapted to send, in response to said received data, a form, and adapted to receive form data, the server being adapted to use said form data in the resemblance analysis.
- 30 29. A system for estimating the resemblance of various objects, comprising a communication device (1) which is adapted to record data of a real object and transfer said recorded data to a server (100; 405) which is arranged as claimed in any one of claims 20-28, via a network which at least partly is wireless.
- 35 30. Use of the method as claimed in any one of claims 1-19 in a TV programme to make a resemblance analysis between a previously stored object and a large number of comparison objects which are extracted from received recorded data.